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NSCID No. 7

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL INTELLIGENCE
DIRECTIVE NO. 7¹

CRITICAL INTELLIGENCE COMMUNICATIONS

(Effective 17 February 1972)

Pursuant to Sections 101 and 102, as amended, of the National Security Act of 1947, in order that the President and other members of the National Security Council may be provided with timely "critical intelligence," the National Security Council hereby authorizes and directs that:

1. There shall be established communications means for the most timely transmission of critical intelligence as defined by the Director of Central Intelligence.
2. The Director of Central Intelligence shall establish uniform criteria for the identification, selection and designation of relative priority for the transmission of critical intelligence. The definition and establishment noted above will be subject to continuing review under procedures to be established by the Director of Central Intelligence.
3. The Secretary of Defense shall be the Executive Agent of the Government to provide for the establishment, operation and perfection of such communications means necessary to provide the most timely transmission of critical intelligence to higher authorities. In the execution of this responsibility, he shall effect coordination with other Government agencies in order that their communications facilities may be utilized to the extent deemed practicable and efficient.
4. The Director of Central Intelligence shall provide the Secretary of Defense with continuing guidance as to the communications requirements of the intelligence community for the transmission of critical intelligence.

¹ This Directive supersedes NSCID No. 7 dated 15 September 1958.

NSC Declassification/Release Decision on File

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